

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

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FM AMCONSUL BOMBAY

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E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: TECH, IN

SUBJ: THE TARAPUR SPENT FUEL STORAGE EXPANSION

THERE FOLLOWS A SUMMARY OF CONSULTANT WILLIAM KIEFER'S EVALUATION OF THE SEVERAL ALTERNATIVES FOR DOUBLING THE CAPACITY OF THE TAPS SPENT FUEL STORAGE POOLS. A COPY HAS BEEN LEFT WITH J.C. SHAH, CHAIRMAN OF THE ATOMIC POWER AUTHORITY, WHO AGREES WITH THE ALTERNATIVES OUTLINED BY MR. KIEFER. IT SEEMS CLEAR THAT THE INDIANS CAN DO THE RACK ANALYSIS AND DESIGN AND POSSIBLY THE FABRICATION OF NEW RACKS. THEREFORE, THE QUICKEST WAY TO MOVE TOWARD A SOLUTION WHICH IS URGENT WOULD BE A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF THE CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS WITH GE. IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT THE INDIANS WILL OPT FOR THIS SOLUTION BUT DO NOT BELIEVE THEY CAN WAIT BEYOND TWO OR THREE WEEKS FOR RESOLUTION OF THE IMPASSE WITH GE. SHOULD THESE NEGOTIATIONS FAIL, THEN THEY ARE PREPARED TO SOLICIT TENDERS THEMSEVLES FROM THE MINIMUM OF THREE SUPPLIERS (ALL US) WHICH THEIR REGULATIONS REQUIRE. MR. KIEFER WILL CONTACT BOB OBER, NEA/INS EARLY NEXT WEEK.

BEGIN TEXT AUGUST 5, 1977 PLAN FOR INCREASING SPENT FUEL

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STORAGE CAPACITY IN THE FUEL POOLS AT TARAPUR STATION.

UNIT 2 OUTPUT HAS BEEN REDUCED TO 70 PCT TO STRETCH ITS CURRENT CYCLE AND IS SCHEDULED FOR ITS NEXT REFUELING AND MAINTENANCE OUTAGE IN END NOVEMBER 1977. AFTER THIS OUTAGE THERE WILL BE INSUFFICIENT SPACE IN THE FUEL RACKS TO ACCOMMODATE THE UNIT 1 REFUELING SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 1, 1978. THIS OCCURS IN

SPITE OF THE INSTALLATION OF 2 ADDITIONAL RACKS PRIOR TO THE UNIT 2 OUTAGE IN 1977. A MINIMUM OF 70 NEW RACK SPACES WILL BE REQUIRED BEFORE NEXT MARCH. THESE NEW RACKS SHOULD BE OF THE HIGH DENSITY DESIGN TO ALLOW THE CONTINUING RACK CHAGEOUT TO OCCUR. THE TIME AVAILABLE FOR THEIR DESIGN, FABRICATION, TRANSPORT AND INSTALLATION (APPROXIMATELY 7 MONTHS) IS AN EXTREMELY TIGHT SCHEDULE WHICH WILL REQUIRE RAPID CONCLUSION TO ALL INTERMEDIATE STEPS OF THE PROJECT. IF THE SCHEDULE LAGS, THE ALTERNATIVE IS TO OPERATE UNIT 1 AT REDUCED OUTPUT AND EXTEND THE CYCLE. THIS DECISION CAN BE MADE 4 OR 5 MONTHS FROM NOW.

AFTER EXAMINING DESIGN INFORMATION FOR SME HIGH DENSITY RACKS NOW USED IN THE U.S., MR. SHAH AND HIS STAFF CONCLUDED THAT MUCH OF TH RACK ANALYSIS AND DESIGN AND POSSIBLY THE FABRICATION COULD BE DONE IN INDIA. WITH SOME ESSENTIAL INFORMATION FROM U.S. UTILITY EXPERIENCE ON INSTALLATION AND OLD RACK REMOVAL METHODS, THESE ASPECTS CAN ALSO BE TACKLED. HOWEVER, IF THE AGREEMENT NOW BEING NEGOTIATED WITH GENERAL ELECTRIC CAN BE COMPLETED AT AN EARLY DATE, THIS MAY SAVE TIME AND COULD BE PREFERABLE. ANOTHER ALTERNATIVE IS FOR INDIA TO REQUEST BIDS FOR THE ASSISTANCE IN DESIGN, FABRICATION AND INSTALLATION FROM 3 U.S. SUPPLIERS (MINIMUM GOI TENDER REQUIREMENTS) WITH HIGH DENSITY RACK EXPERIENCE. THIS DECISION WILL BE MADE WITHIN 2 OR 3 WEEKS. MR. SHAH IS NOT OPTIMISTIC THAT THIS WILL SAVE TIME AS A LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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STUDY ON THIS BASIS CANNOT BEGIN BEFORE MID-OCTOBER.

IN THE MEANTIME, SUCH ACTION AS CAN BE TAKEN BY INDIANS ON AYALYSIS, ETC. ARE BEING PROGRESSED AND FURTHER NEEDED INFORMATION FROM UTILITY EXPERIENCE HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED FOR FOLLOW-UP ACTION IN USA. SIGNED (W.M. KIEFER) AUGUST 5, 1977. BOMBAY. END TEXT. COURTNEY

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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